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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/867,082	05/29/2001	Kazuhiro Okamoto	2803.65577	6025
24978	7590	01/27/2004		
GREER, BURNS & CRAIN 300 S WACKER DR 25TH FLOOR CHICAGO, IL 60606			EXAMINER QI, ZHI QIANG	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2871	

DATE MAILED: 01/27/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/867,082

Applicant(s)

OKAMOTO ET AL.

Examiner

Mike Qi

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 October 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 6-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 6-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 6-7 and 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant admitted prior art (AAPA) in view of JP 7-56516.

Claim 6, AAPA discloses (page 1, line 18 – page 3, line 3 of the specification) that a liquid crystal display device includes a liquid crystal panel, a light source, and a frame for supporting the liquid crystal panel and the light source as a liquid crystal display unit (in other words, a liquid crystal display device includes a liquid crystal panel and a light source unit such as a backlight, and the liquid crystal panel and the light source unit are integrally supported by a frame as a liquid crystal display unit, such that the liquid crystal display is arranged in a housing), and that structure is conventional structure for a liquid crystal display device.

Concerning a mechanism attached to the frame for changing an angle of the display surface of the liquid crystal panel as AAPA indicated such as the publication JP 7-56516 discloses (Fig.3) that a conventional self-standing type liquid crystal display device having a tilt mechanism (13) attached to the housing, and the function is to change an angle of the display surface of the liquid crystal panel. JP 7-56516 indicates

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(abstract) that such tilt mechanism facilitates the adjustment of an angle of elevation in a self-standing display device.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to those skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to arrange a liquid crystal display device having a mechanism attached as claimed in claim 6 to facilitate the adjustment of an angle of elevation in a self-standing display device.

Claims 7 and 9-10, JP 7-56516 discloses (abstract; Fig.3) that a tilt mechanism (13) being capable of changing an angle of a display surface of the liquid crystal panel (22) is attached to a back surface side of the display panel (22), and the back surface section of the liquid crystal display unit is substantially parallel to the display surface of the liquid crystal display unit, and the device is a self-standing device including a tilt mechanism (13). Such self-standing display device supports a display part in a stable state by a smallest supporting force and facilitates the adjustment of an angle of elevation.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to those skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to use a tilt mechanism in a self-standing device as claimed in claims 7, 9-10 for facilitating the adjustment of an angle of elevation.

3. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA and JP 7-56516 as applied to claims 6-7 and 9-10 above, and further in view of JP 2000-47209 and US 6,216,989 (Shioya et al).

Claim 8, JP 2000-47209 discloses (abstract; Figs.1-2) that using screw (SC) and screw hole (HLD) to attach the upper case (SHD) and lower case (MCA), and that is the

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same idea to attach a frame with a tilt mechanism, and that is a conventional way to attach two mechanical parts using screw and screw hole. Shioya discloses (col.9, line 53 - col.11, line 49; Figs 2-5) that using tilting member (7) (display holder, i.e., a frame to hold the display unit) having screw hole (7c) for attaching the tilt mechanism (10). Shioya indicates (col.11, lines 41-49) that the display unit can be easily mounted on and detached from the support structure, and further, the display unit also can be tilted (changing an angle of a display surface) by simply mounting the display unit on the support structure.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to those skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to use screw hole to attach a frame with the mechanism as claimed in claim 8 for achieving easily mount the display panel and easy to perform the angle changing of the display surface.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed on Oct.31, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant's **only** arguments are as follows:

- 1) The cited reference should be JP-56516.
- 2) There is no member corresponding to the frame of the present invention in the cited references.

Examiner's responses to Applicant's **only** arguments are as follows:

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1) The previous office action has a typing mistake, so that the cited reference should be JP-56516.

2) According to the claimed language, "a mechanism attached to the frame for changing an angle of a display surface of the liquid crystal panel" that the references read such limitation. Because any mechanism is a mechanism and there is a tilt mechanism attached to the housing (the frames must form a housing, and the tilt mechanism attached to the frame), and functions for changing an angle of a display surface of the liquid crystal display panel.

Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.


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6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mike Qi whose telephone number is (571) 272-2299.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Mike Qi
January 19, 2004


ROBERT H. KIM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800